

• COLORADO RIVER • AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT

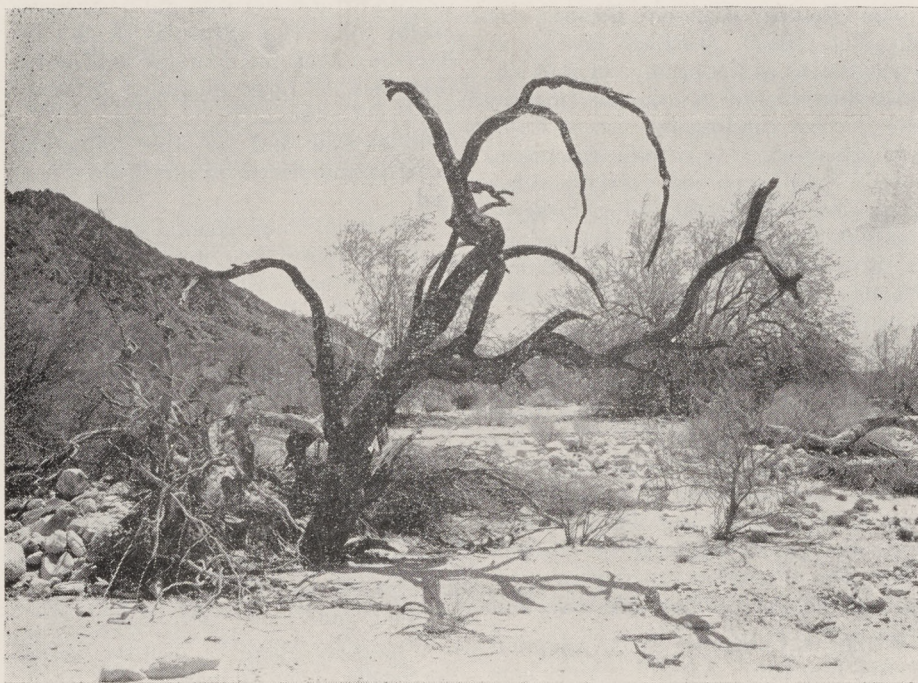


OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Vol. XI

June 30, 1944

No. 6



Desert Land. Ratification of the proposed Mexican treaty will condemn to everlasting desert at least 300,000 potentially fertile acres in Arizona and California. The proposed treaty guarantees to Mexico 1,500,000 acre feet of Colorado River water annually. This is 750,000 acre feet more than Mexico ever did or ever could use before Boulder Dam was built, and the additional 750,000 acre feet annually which the proposed treaty hands over to Mexico is thus taken for all time away from United States soil.

Santa Ana and Anaheim Residents Vote Decisively for Aqueduct Water

Residents of Santa Ana and Anaheim during the month of June registered decisively their preference for the softened and filtered water from the aqueduct of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

With the June bills sent out to all of the consumers in the two Orange County cities, there were enclosed post card ballots on which the consumers were requested to indicate whether they desired to be served with aqueduct water or with water from their local wells. In the instance of Santa Ana, the people

were told that a choice in favor of the softened and filtered aqueduct water would mean a 35 per cent increase in water rates.

It is apparent that the people of Santa Ana were overwhelmingly in favor of the aqueduct supply even though it meant an increase in their rates. Of ten thousand cards sent out, approximately 50 per cent were returned. This is regarded as a remarkably large proportion of returns on a post card poll. Of the cards returned by water consum-

(Continued on Page 2)

There was a man who set about to take away a quantity of precious goods each year from certain of his sons, and with this substance he bargained for the good will of a neighbor. But the neighbor knowing the sons' need for these valuable possessions, was filled only with fear and suspicion that the deliveries would not be made as promised. And the impoverished sons were embittered against their father and made hostile to their neighbor.

The above parable comes to mind on reading the provisions of the proposed Mexican treaty advocated by the U. S. State Department and now pending in the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate.

Legislators Denounce Pending Water Treaty

By unanimous vote of both the Assembly and the Senate, the State Legislature of California has expressed its opposition to the proposed water treaty with Mexico now pending in the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate, and has asked that the treaty not be ratified.

At the same time, the Legislature by unanimous vote appropriated \$50,000 to be made available to the Colorado River Board of California in its fight against ratification of the proposed Mexican treaty. The appropriation was immediately approved by Governor Earl Warren.

Action of the Legislature in appropriating funds to oppose the Mexican treaty and in adopting a strong resolution expressing its opposition was taken during the course of the special session called in June by Governor Warren.

(Continued on Page 2)

• COLORADO RIVER •
AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

306 West Third St.
 Los Angeles, California

Published monthly in the interest of Field and Office Workers on the Colorado River Aqueduct, and for the information of all other citizens of the Metropolitan Water District.

VOL. XI June 30, 1944 No. 6

Favor Aqueduct Water

(Continued from Page 1)

ers in Santa Ana, 3,173 voted in favor of Metropolitan Aqueduct water, and 1,471 voted in favor of continuing to use the local water.

In Anaheim, with the count practically completed on the evening of June 30, the vote was 860 in favor of Metropolitan Aqueduct water and 502 in favor of continuing with the local supply.

In Santa Ana, the vote on the use of aqueduct water was taken the second month of a 60-day trial period, during which time the people had been supplied 100 per cent with aqueduct water. By more than a two-to-one majority, the water users expressed their wish that such a 100 per cent aqueduct supply be permanently continued, even though it will mean an increase in water rates.

Following a canvass of the votes in Santa Ana, it was announced by Mayor Asa Hoffman of that city that the expressed wish of a vast majority of the voters would be complied with, and that the city would continue the use of a 100 per cent Metropolitan Aqueduct water supply.

Especially notable was the enthusiastic endorsement of the soft and filtered aqueduct water given by the home managers of Santa Ana during the 60-day trial period. They were favorably impressed by the savings in soap costs made possible by the softened aqueduct water, and by the sparkling purity of the water for drinking purposes. In the laundry and in the kitchen, it was demonstrated that the soft aqueduct water cleaned much more effectively than hard, unfiltered water. The aqueduct water also made a decided hit with housewives by doing away with that notorious "ring 'round the bath tub," and the "tattle-tale gray" that shows up in clothes washed in hard water.

Even with the proposed increase in effect, Santa Ana will continue to enjoy relatively low water rates, it was

Denounce Treaty

(Continued from Page 1)

Copies of the Legislature's resolution were forwarded to the President, the Secretary of State, members of the Foreign Relations Committee of the U. S. Senate and to California's Congressional delegation.

The resolution, which speaks for itself, is as follows:

WHEREAS, The United States of America and the State of California heretofore entered into a certain statutory compact, which compact was made in the manner following:

The Boulder Canyon Project Act (45 Stat. 1057) provided that if, in consideration of the passage of said act, California should within six months adopt an act limiting her use of Colorado River water to certain quantities, and if California and certain other States should ratify the Colorado River Compact, then said Project Act and all the provisions thereof should become effective, but otherwise should not become effective.

California did, within said time, expressly in consideration of the passage of said Project Act, adopt such a Limitation Act (Cal. Stats. 1929, 38), and did ratify the Interstate Compact, known as the Colorado River Compact (Cal. Stats. 1929, 37), all in precise conformity to the requirements of the Project Act. The President thereupon proclaimed the Project Act effective; and

WHEREAS, California by the adoption of said Limitation Act did subject herself, her lands and people to a drastic reduction of the amount of water of the Colorado River otherwise available for use in California; and did by the adoption of said Ratifying Act subject herself, her lands and people to the burdens imposed by the Colorado River Compact; and

WHEREAS, Said Boulder Canyon Project Act contains the following provisions, a part of said statutory compact, which were intended to protect and safe-

pointed out. The 35 per cent increase, incidentally, is designed by the local authorities to cover the entire cost of the aqueduct water supply to Santa Ana. Soft and filtered water is delivered to Santa Ana and to other cities of the Metropolitan Water District at a cost of only \$15.00 per acre foot, or 3.5 cents per 100 cubic feet. The increase in the rate to be charged Santa Ana consumers by the local water depart-

guard the availability to California of the quantity of water to which California limited herself, to wit, provisions: (1) that the water of the Colorado River to be conserved by Boulder Dam should be used "exclusively within the United States"; (2) that no person should have the use of the water conserved by Boulder Dam, except by contract made by the Secretary of the Interior on behalf of the United States; and (3) that such contracts should be for permanent service; and

WHEREAS, The Secretary of the Interior, on behalf of the United States, has entered into contracts authorized by said Project Act with public agencies of the State of California for the delivery to them, for domestic and irrigation uses, of large quantities of water of the Colorado River conserved by Boulder Dam and for other rights and benefits authorized by the Project Act; and

WHEREAS, Said Limitation Act and said Ratifying Act were adopted by California and said contracts were entered into by California's public agencies in absolute reliance upon the full performance and observance by the United States of the above mentioned protective provisions of the Project Act and this Legislature declares that it would not have adopted said Limitation Act nor said Ratifying Act nor would said contracts have been executed by said public agencies, had not said Project Act contained said protective provisions; and

WHEREAS, There is pending before the Senate of the United States a treaty, signed February 3, 1944, between the United States of America and the United Mexican States, whereby the United States would guarantee to Mexico delivery annually and in a certain prescribed manner of a quantity of water of the Colorado River, which quantity can not be delivered to Mexico in such manner without delivering to her water conserved by Boulder Dam; and

WHEREAS, Said treaty, if ratified,
(Continued on Page 3)

ment amounts to about 3.5 cents per 100 cubic feet. With the increase in effect, Santa Ana will have a maximum domestic water rate of 13.5 cents per 100 cubic feet. This is still lower than the average maximum domestic water rate of 15.3 cents being charged in California cities in the District area, and is considerably lower than the average maximum rate charged in representative cities throughout the United States.

● MONTHLY REPORT ●

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a brief summary of some of the activities of the District as set forth in the monthly report of General Manager Julian Hinds, filed with the Board of Directors in June, 1944, covering work done in May, 1944.)

Construction

Coastal Municipal Water District Line—All construction on the Coastal M. W. D. pipe line and reservoir has been completed.

Operation and Maintenance

General—District units N-5 and N-6 at the Boulder power plant were on power generation 97.5 per cent of the time in May. The maximum energy demand of Basic Magnesium, Inc. the first half of the month was 169,593 kw; in the second half it was 135,675 kw. Total energy delivered to B. M. I. amounted to 101,422,125 kwhr, a daily average of 3,271,680 kwhr compared with 4,271,400 in April, a reduction of 23.4 per cent.

Parker Dam—At Lake Havasu the water surface dropped from elevation 446.6 feet on April 30 to a low of 444.5 on May 17 and then gradually rose to 447.5 on May 31. The discharge of the Colorado River at Parker Dam averaged 17,960 c. f. s. compared with 19,417 in April.

Parker Power Plant—The Parker generators were operated in parallel with the District system except for three short periods during the month. Energy received by the District system from the Parker plant in May was 7,421,000 kwhr, a daily average of 239,387 kwhr compared with 226,933 in April.

Main Aqueduct—A small maintenance force worked on road grading, canal cleaning, repairing canal berms, and routine patrol. The canal section east of Iron Mountain was flushed of sand and silt by opening the Iron Mountain wasteway.

Pumping Plants—Pumps at Intake and Gene plants were operated for short periods to maintain water levels in Gene and Copper Basin reservoirs, and to supply water for cleaning the aqueduct. Normal maintenance was performed at all plants. The main motors at Gene were opened for inspection, cleaning, and repainting of the cooler water boxes.

Distribution System—Available water in storage at Lake Mathews on May 31 was 78,827 acre feet with water surface at elevation 1343.8 feet. The reduction in storage for the month was 2,395 acre feet and the drop in water level 1.36 feet. At the Softening and Filtration Plant water was softened from an average hardness of 372

p. p. m. to 101 p. p. m. Rate of flow through the plant averaged 30.7 c. f. s. or 19,789,000 gallons per day, compared with 16,768,000 in April. Free water delivery to the City of Santa Ana, starting on May 3, averaged 7.5 c. f. s. or 4,850,000 gallons per day. Chemical, bacteriological, and plankton analyses were made of water samples from the main aqueduct and distribution system. Softened, filtered Colorado River water also was delivered to Beverly Hills, Burbank, Coastal M. W. D., Compton, Fullerton, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, Torrance, and to the U. S. Army Hospital at Spadra.

Office Engineering and Design—Plans were prepared for an additional salt storage basin at the Softening Plant, designed to provide improved facilities for handling salt containing the limit of insoluble matter allowable under the purchase contract, and designs were made of a mechanism to improve the operation of large steel gates controlling flow to basins in the Softening Plant.

Hydrographic—Meetings of the Colorado River Board of California were attended and much time was devoted to problems connected with the proposed Mexican water treaty. Water storage in Lake Mead decreased slightly up to May 4, then increased 1,951,000 acre feet to 20,986,000 acre feet on May 31. From the low on May 4, the water surface rose 15.31 feet to elevation 1173.2 at the end of the month. The discharge from Lake Mead averaged 19,763 c. f. s. compared with 19,654 c. f. s. in April. Aid was given and questions answered in connection with annexation and associated problems.

Employment—During the month of May, 26 classified positions were filled, 18 by transfer and 8 by new employment. There were also recorded 5 terminations, 18 changes of status, 8 employment contracts and 81 interviews.

Purchasing—Total expenditures covered by 273 purchase orders and one agreement issued in May by the purchasing division amounted to approximately \$12,430.00. Carload forwardings consisted of 26 cars of sodium chloride to the Softening Plant. Cash salvage sales for the month amounted to \$9,061.66. The appraised value of salvage stock on hand at the end of the month was \$279,436.91.

Denounce Treaty

(Continued from Page 2)

would impair the ability of the United States to render permanent service of water under said California contracts and otherwise perform said contracts; and

WHEREAS, Said treaty, if ratified, would create a right in water conserved by Boulder Dam, by means other than by contract with the Secretary of the Interior; and

WHEREAS, Said treaty, if ratified, would make it impossible for the Secretary of the Interior to fulfill the contracts which he has executed on behalf of the United States under the authority of the Project Act and would make it impossible for the United States to observe and perform its obligations under said Statutory Compact, to wit, the above mentioned protective provisions of said Project Act; and

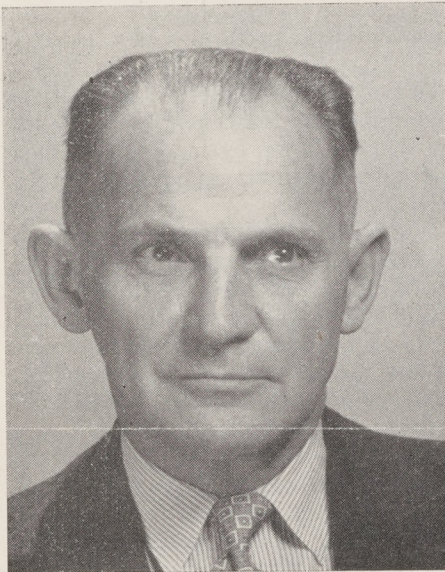
WHEREAS, Said treaty, if ratified, would cause the consideration for the adoption by California of said Statutory Compact to fail and said Statutory Compact would be thereby breached by the United States; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Senate and Assembly of the State of California jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California urgently represents to the President and the Senate of the United States that the ratification of the pending treaty would constitute a breach of the solemn Statutory Compact entered into between the United States of America and the State of California and evidenced by the above mentioned statutes, to the great and irreparable damage of California; and be it further

Resolved, That said Legislature urges that the pending treaty be not ratified; and further urges that in any treaty that may be entered into between the United States of America and the United Mexican States, the rights of the State of California under said Statutory Compact and the contractual rights of her public agencies be fully protected; and be it further

Resolved, That the Governor is hereby requested to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Interior, the Vice President of the United States as President of the Senate, the Chairman and each member of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, also to each of the Senators and Representatives from California in the Congress of the United States.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE



Field Clerk Wilbor D. Tillinghast took over his present duties at Gene Camp on June 12, transferring from the Mails and Files Division in the Los Angeles offices. Before joining the District organization in January of this year, First Sergeant Tillinghast had served with the United States Marines for 31 years. He saw foreign service in Mexico, Santo Domingo, Haiti and Guam.

Mrs. David B. MacClyment is now the mother of a son, Alan David, born June 17, weight, nine pounds, two ounces. As Lois Johnson, Mrs. MacClyment was District Telephone Operator in the Los Angeles headquarters throughout the aqueduct construction period.

Aqueducters were deeply grieved by news of the death during June of two former members of the District organization. Oliver J. Schieber, who was engaged in civil engineering work for the District from 1931 to 1938 and who for the past several years has been with the Southern California Edison Co., passed away on June 23, following a brief illness. Will N. Fox, District Staff Photographer from 1933 to 1939, died on June 6. Since leaving the District, Will had continued to maintain his family residence in Banning.

Progress reports from field and office employee groups indicate that the Metropolitan Water District men and women are doing fairly well in the Fifth War Loan drive. But at the end of June there were still a few to be heard from.

Service Report

The May issue of the NEWS listed a number of District employees now on military leave. Here are a few more District men and women now in military service, and some former employees who are now in uniform. Ranks, ratings and locations mentioned are based on the most recent information available to the District.

Los Angeles Office

Rufus S. Fee, Carpenter's Mate 1/c, U. S. Navy, in North Africa.

Lt. Col. Donald M. Keith, U.S. Army, War Department Board of Contract Appeals, Office of Undersecretary of War, Washington, D. C.

Eugene V. Reynolds, Automotive Advisor for the Army, Los Angeles area.

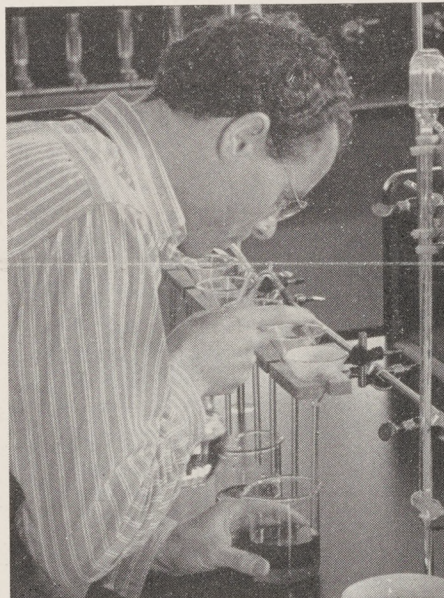
Lt. Col. Lynn Davis Smith, Instructor, Army and Navy Staff College, Washington, D. C.

Sgt. Margaret E. Swank, WAC, located at Santa Fe, New Mexico.

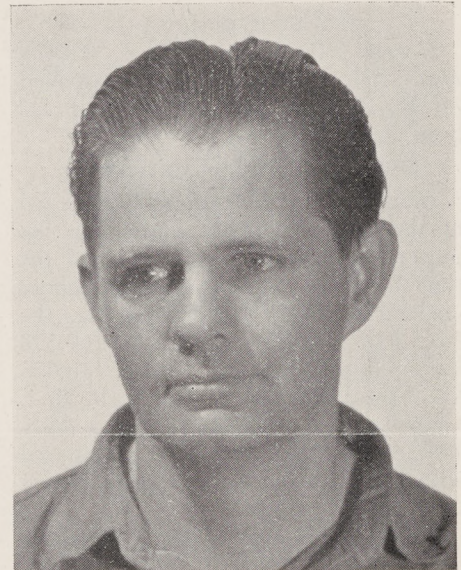
Lt. Miriam Taylor, U. S. Marines, Aviation Division, Washington, D. C.

Former Employees

Lt. Com. Maynard Anderson, U. S. Navy, stationed at Coeur D'Alene, Ida.



This is a candid camera view of Chief Chemist Lee Streicher at the District's Softening and Filtration Plant. The process of softening the aqueduct water and maintaining the District's high standards of quality are tasks which call for the employment of exacting and precise scientific methods. That's where Chief Chemist Streicher comes in.



Station Chief Ralph P. Adams at Hayfield Pumping Plant has been with the District since June 1935. During construction days he was an electrician at Fargo, Berdoo and Thousand Palms tunnel camps, among others. He has been on the pumping plant end of the aqueduct system since February 1938.

Capt. Jack S. Armstrong, Marine Corps Aircraft Group, in the Pacific.

Lt. Com. Earl Bennett, now at submarine base, New London, Conn.

Sgt. William J. Black, Army Air Forces weather division, in Glendale, Calif.

Lt. N. F. Crossley, with Army Engineers, somewhere in Europe.

Chief Petty Officer W. R. Farnsworth, U. S. Navy, in the Southwest Pacific.

Chief Yeoman Fred Fauble, U. S. Navy, in the Aleutians.

Lt. Arthur E. Graham, Army Engineers, somewhere in the Pacific.

Samuel G. Hall, Chief Motor Machinist's Mate, U. S. Navy, in the South Pacific.

Capt. L. H. Henderson, Army Aviation Engineers, somewhere in the Pacific.

Lt. Col. L. W. Irwin, Army Engineers, Presidio, San Francisco.

Capt. Hugh Jones, Army Engineers, Wendover Air Base, Utah.

Major H. G. Matthews, Post Engineers, Fort Lewis, Washington.

Lt. Raymond C. Reed, Army Air Forces, Pampa Air Field, Pampa, Texas.

Major W. H. Speer, Office of Army Engineers, in Los Angeles.